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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Moshe Finarov
Assignee: Nova Measuring Instruments, Ltd.
Title: APPARATUS FOR OPTICAL INSPECTION OF WAFERS DURING POLISHING
Serial No.: Unknown Filed: March 25, 1998
Examiner: Unknown Group Art Unit: Unknown
Docket No.: M-3417-1C US

San Jose, California
March 25, 1998

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
BOX PATENT APPLICATION
Washington, D. C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
AND STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.163(d)(2)**

Dear Sir:

Prior to examining this continuing application (which is a continuation of U.S.S.N. 08/497,382, filed June 29, 1995), kindly amend the continuing application as follows:

IN THE TITLE

On page 1, after the title "APPARATUS FOR OPTICAL INSPECTION OF WAFERS DURING POLISHING", delete the names of the inventors "Eran Dvir, Eli Haimovich and Benjamin Shulman" as Moshe Finarov is the sole inventor in this application.

IN THE DRAWINGS

Please amend Figures 6-9 as shown in the red-ink mark up of these figures as originally filed in the prior application identified above.

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- 1 -

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LAW OFFICES OF
SKEJVERN, MORRILL,
MADPHESSON, FRANKLIN
& FRIEL LLP

25 METRO DRIVE
SUITE 700
SAN JOSE, CA 95110
(408) 453-9200
FAX (408) 453-7979